



# Murray Darling Association Inc.

Ordinary Meeting of Region 6  
13 January 2023  
09:30 am – 13:00 pm

**Mobilong Room. Local Government Centre.  
Rural City of Murray Bridge.  
2 Seventh Street Murray Bridge.**

*MICROSOFT TEAMS (see Meeting Invite for link)*

## AGENDA – 13 JANUARY 2023

- 1. WELCOME**
  - 1.1. Acknowledgement of Country
  
- 2. ATTENDANCE**
  - 2.1. Membership Attachment 1
  - 2.2. RSVP
  - 2.3. Guests
  - 2.4. Apologies
  - 2.5. Declarations
  
- 3. PREVIOUS MINUTES**
  - 3.1 Minutes from Ordinary Meeting 12 August 2022 Attachment 2
  
- 4. NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION**
  - 4.1. MDA CEO Mark Lamb– Introduction to the Murray Darling Association
  - 4.2. Region 6 Coordinator Carol Muzyk – Introduction to MDA Region 6 (Members Pack to be tabled)
  - 4.3. Former Chair Melissa Rebbeck – Roles and Responsibilities of the Chair
  
- 5. REPORTS**
  - 5.1. Former Chair’s Report - Cr Melissa Rebbeck
  - 5.2. MDA CEO’s Report – Mark Lamb
  - 5.3. Murray Darling Basin Authority – Deana Mildren
  - 5.4. Commonwealth Environmental Water Office – Richard Mintern
  - 5.5. Office of Inspector General Water Compliance - Greg Burns
  - 5.6. Re-elected Member’s Updates (written or verbal)
  - 5.7. 2023 Conference and AGM Planning – Mark Lamb/Carol Muzyk
  
- 6. CORRESPONDENCE**
  - 6.1. Correspondence Out
    - 6.1.1. NIL
  - 6.2. Correspondence In
    - 6.2.1. NIL
  
- 7. BUSINESS ARISING**
  - 7.1. Actions from previous Ordinary meetings Attachment 3
  - 7.2. Actions from previous Executive meetings Attachment 4
  
- 8. CALENDAR OF EVENTS**
  - 11.1 Updated Calendar of Events Attachment 5

**9. NEXT MEETING**

9.1. Agenda Items

9.2. Guest Speakers

**10. CLOSE**

*The Murray Darling Association acknowledges and thanks Rural City of Murray Bridge for its support in hosting this meeting of Region 6.*

**Attachment 1. Murray Darling Association Region 6 – Membership 2023**

<b>2023 REGION 6 MEMBERSHIP</b>				
<b>As of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023</b>				
<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Council</b>	<b>Executive Member</b>	<b>Voting Member</b>
Outgoing Chair	Melissa Rebbeck	Alexandrina Council		
Coordinator	Carol Muzyk	Region 6		
Council Representatives	GM Heather Barclay	Rural City of Murray Bridge		
	Mayor Wayne Thornton	Rural City of Murray Bridge		
	Sue Reynolds	Rural City of Murray Bridge		
	Cr Airlee Keen	Rural City of Murray Bridge		
	CEO Bridget Mather	Coorong District Council		
	TBA	Coorong District Council		
	TBA	Coorong District Council		
	CEO Nigel Morris	Alexandrina Council		
	Cr Michael Scott	Alexandrina Council		
	Cr Milli Livingstone	Alexandrina Council		
	CEO Victoria MacKirdy	City of Victor Harbor		
	TBA	City of Victor Harbor		
	TBA	City of Victor Harbor		
	CEO Anne Champness	Tatiara District Council		
	TBA	Tatiara District Council		
	TBA	Tatiara District Council		
	CEO Jason Taylor	Southern Mallee District Council		
	TBA	Southern Mallee District Council		
	TBA	Southern Mallee District Council		
Individual Member	Adrian Pederick, MP JP			
	Colin Grundy			
	Warren Jacobs			
Life Members	Graham Camac			
	Phillip Moore			



# Murray Darling Association Inc.

Ordinary Meeting of Region 6  
12 August 2022  
09:00 am – 1 pm

## FINAL MINUTES – August 2022

### 1. WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

### 2. ATTENDANCE

#### 2.1. RSVP (no less than 1/3 of Member Councils for a quorum (16.6(d) MDA Constitution 2019))

Cr Melissa Rebbeck (Chair)	Alexandrina Council
Warren Jacobs (Virtual attendance)	Individual member
Mayor Brenton Lewis	Rural City of Murray Bridge
GM Heather Barclay	Rural City of Murray Bridge
Stephen Packer (Proxy for Sue Reynolds)	Rural City of Murray Bridge (Proxy)
Cr Vern Leng	Coorong District Council
CEO Bridget Mather (Virtual attendance)	Coorong District Council
Cr Brenton Qualmann	Coorong District Council
Cr Michael Scott ASM OAM (Virtual attendance)	Alexandrina Council

#### 2.2. Guests

Mark Lamb	CEO MDA
Tim Phillips	MDA
Carol Muzyk	Coordinator MDA Region 6
Tim Hartman	CEO Ngarrindjeri Aboriginal Corporation
Tim Goodes	MDBA
Richard Mintern	CEWO
Greg Burns	OIGWC

#### 2.3. Apologies

CEO Jason Taylor	Southern Mallee District Council
Colin Grundy	Individual member
Adrian Pederick	Individual Member
Tracey Strugnell	Coorong District Council
Cr Tracy Hill	Coorong District Council
Cr Marilyn Henderson	The City of Victor Harbour

#### 2.4. Declarations

NIL

### 3. PREVIOUS MINUTES

**MOTION:** that the minutes of the Murray Darling Association (MDA) Region 6 - Ordinary Meeting held 20 May 2022 be approved as an accurate record of that meeting.

Richard Mintern /Cr Leng/CARRIED

## REPORTS

### 4.1. MDA CEO Report – Mark Lamb

- Membership – dues were sent out in June. There have been some drop offs in membership. A membership drive will be undertaken to seek membership from Councils who currently are not members. All Regions are encouraged to engage with non-member Councils.
- Basin Community Leadership Program – Commenced in March. Reporting has been completed. An audit of the grants has occurred and sign off has been successful. This has resulted in extra funds from the Dept. of Agriculture.
- Circular Economy – initial consultation has been undertaken. Project has now finished and a draft report given to CSIRP for feedback. Further work may occur in the future.
- 2022 AGM and Conference – working with all regions to get motions in. A cocktail reception will convene at the Albury Club on the Sunday and a Study Tour of the Dartmouth and Hume Dams is planned for the Monday. The Dartmouth Dam is currently 95% full. Speakers for the conference include the Shadow Water Minister and the Hon Tanya Plibersek. A Gala Dinner will be held on the Tuesday Night at the Soldier, Sailor and Airmans Club. A local historian is the guest speaker for the evening.

## QUESTIONS

1. Cr Rebbeck – what is the cut off date for Motions and how are the other regions going with their submissions?
2. Cr Leng – Are you looking at sending them out to the Member councils for consideration prior to the AGM? Gives the Council members the opportunity to advise their delegates on their position.

## ANSWERS

1. Monday 15<sup>th</sup> is the due date. A lot of Regions are struggling to get them in. An extension to the end of next week has been provided. The Motions will be sent to the MDA Board for consideration and discussion. This will occur at the end of the Month.
2. This will be a Board decision. CEO is happy to circulate them.

### 4.2. Region 6 Chairs Report – Cr Rebbeck

- Great work has been undertaken by Region 6.
- Official congratulations to RCMB on the successful bid to Host the 2023 MDA Conference and AGM. Thank you to RCMB staff for putting together a successful bid.
- A number of meetings have been convened to devise and finalise Region 6 Motions
- Meetings have also been convened with Region 5 and Region 7 representatives to organise the Inter-Region Meeting. The date has now been set for 6<sup>th</sup> September.
- Lower Lakes are looking healthy. A Report on the 450GL has been attached to the Agenda for information.
- Would like to have another Ordinary Meeting before the new Councils are appointed.
- Looking forward to the AGM and Conference
- Official welcome to Carol Muzyk – Region 6 Coordinator. Will be involved in the organisation of the 2023 Conference and AGM. Discussion with MDA needs to occur to determine roles and responsibilities.

## QUESTIONS

1. Cr Leng – draw members attention to the MDBA Media Release on 11 August which talks about the 450GL and NSW Water Resource Plans. Recommends members look at the MDBA website for media releases and reports.
2. Heather Barclay – wishes to move a Motion to thank Cr Rebbeck for her work over the years. This is the late Ordinary Meeting as the Chair. As a region we need to formally recognise the work undertaken by Cr Rebbeck. Drove hard to have a Symposium in late 2021 which was extremely successful. Move a Motion to Formally thank Cr Rebbeck for her passion and input into Region 6.  
Mayor Lewis – voiced his appreciation to Cr Rebbeck and wish her all the best in her future endeavours.  
Cr Scott – Support of sentiments of previous speakers with regard to recognitions of her efforts and the additional challenges she has endured.

## ANSWERS

1. Cr Rebbeck – thanked members for their recognition of her efforts. Indicated she would continue to be involved in Region 6 as an Independent Member.

## MOTION:

Cr Rebbeck be given formal recognition for her efforts as the Chair of Region 6 and thank her for the work she has undertaken.

**H.Barclay/ Mayor Lewis/CARRIED**

## MOTION:

That all reports be received

**H.Barclay/ Mayor Lewis/CARRIED**

### 4.3. MDBA Report – Deanna Mildren

Talked to her report that has been tabled.

- Released Basin Plan Report Card – NSW has not submitted their Water Resource Plans. Sustainable Diversion Limits are still a challenge. Northern Basin Initiatives are progressing.
- Annual Operating Outlook – BOM have indicated there is a 50% chance of a La Nina happening. Most likely a wetter than average Spring. Releases from Hume Dam are up significantly and is 95% full. Dartmouth Dam is a full capacity. Some spills to SA have occurred under the MDA Water Sharing Agreement.
- Menindee Lake is full at 115%
- Flow into SA is 55,000MG per day. 150 plus gates are open. Some gates are closed to manage sea water inflow.
- Basin Condition Monitoring Projects have been announced recently by Minister Plibersek. \$7.7 million has been allocated across 15 projects.
- Region community forums are underway. SA occurs the following Tuesday.
- Listening Tour of SA is planned for late October/early November.
- Engagement Officer role has been increased to 4 days a week and recruitment is currently underway.

## QUESTIONS

1. Stephen Packer – Dredging still continues even with 55,000 ML per day?
2. Mayor Brendon Lewis – winds are causing an issue.
3. Cr Leng – need to be mindful of the spills across the Princess Highway
4. Cr Rebbeck – is their flooding events likely to affect the Lower Lakes?
5. Cr Scott – if the lake level and river level is high, it is a fine balance for Langhorne Creek as water may start to bank up south of Langhorne Creek.
6. Cr Leng – members who are concerned about water levels and floods can refer to website Water Data SA [www.water.sata.sa.gov.au](http://www.water.sata.sa.gov.au) Council staff should monitor this site.

## ANSWERS

1. Yes – dredging still continues.
2. If there are issues around significant rainfall upstream, there will be a few weeks notice. Dept. for Environment and Water provide weekly high flow reports. Flooding is occurring in the eastern states.

### 4.4. Commonwealth Environment Water Office Report – Richard Mintern

- Anyone who has the opportunity to do Dartmouth Dam Tour should do so.
- All major storages are full or near full.
- Uncertainty about inflows into Menindee Lakes. Upper NSW catchments are predicting 600-1000GL to come into Menindee Lakes.

- Little or no environmental water in the system. Slowing the recession of the flow will provide some environmental water and mitigate bank slumping.
- Overall condition of the Basin – over 1800GL has been delivered throughout the Basin to value add natural flow where possible.
- Sizeable amounts of water are carried over each year.
- Best bird breeding events in 20 years have occurred and wide dispersal across the Basin

#### NO QUESTIONS

#### 4.5. Office of Inspector General Water Compliance Report – Greg Burns

- Met with the CEO of consulting firm Stream Monitoring who are doing a project on water delivery. They estimate about 20 million cubic tonnes of silt has accumulated at the Barker Choke. Investigating how the silt can be removed and what can be done with the silt.
- Met with Carol and Stephen from RCMB to work through the Motions for the upcoming MDA AGM
- Met with Nathan Bignell in his new role at the FRDC.
- The Inspector General has called out NSW Government in early June about the Water Resource Plans. He has met with Ministers Tanya Plibersek and Kevin Andrews to discuss the issue of the delays in the Water Resource Plans. 7/20 have now been submitted. None have been accredited to date.
- Recent audi has been conducted into the Gould Murray Water. Report is on the OIGWC website.
- SDL Compliance Report will be released Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August and will be available on website.
- Other reports to be released over the coming months include:
  - Des Pearson Report
  - Meeting and Measurements Report Card
  - Report on River Operations and Commonwealth Environment Water Holder Consultative Assessment
  - Boarder Rivers Trade Audit
  - Annual Report
- Work Plan for 22/23 has been released.
- Commenced work on water trade and enforcement throughout the Basin

#### NO QUESTIONS

#### 4.6. Member's Updates

Warren Jacobs:

- Has represented the Primary Producers SA. Have a Natural Resource Committee now. Currently putting together principles on how to manage water in SA.
- Advocacy on the importance of the 450GL to the environment.

#### NO QUESTIONS

Cr Leng:

- Expressed gratitude to member representatives who have met regularly to formulate and discuss Motions for the MDA AGM.
- Participated in a water compliance survey on behalf of the Inspector Generals Office. Noted the reports listed on the OIGWC website and the visits that have been undertaken in the area.
- Thanked Greg Burns for the one on one discussions.

Mayor Lewis:

- Emma Bradley put together an Executive Advisory Committee. Meetings have not been as frequent since Emma left. The new CEO will require the meetings into the future. Mayor Lewis has not attended any to date and is not likely to attend any future meetings.

QUESTIONS:

Cr Rebbeck: Are the Executive Advisory Committee meetings likely to occur in the future?

ANSWER:

Up to the new CEO. Cr Rebbeck will raise this at the next MDBA Board meeting.

**MOTION:** that the members receive the reports and updates.

Cr Leng / Mayor Lewis / CARRIED

**Chair declared a 10 minute break at 11:10am**

**Cr Leng Left the Meeting**

**Meeting Re-Opened at 11:25am**

## **5. CORRESPONDENCE**

- 5.1. Correspondence Out
- Minister Susan Close
  - Minister Tanya Plibersek
  - Memo Region 6 – 2023 MDA Conference and AGM
- 5.2. Correspondence In
- Hay Shire Council Report

**RECOMMENDATION:** that the membership note the correspondence.

## **6. BUSINESS ARISING**

Members to review actions arising and actions completed as recorded.

[MDA-R6 matters in progress from the previous Ordinary meetings](#) and [MDA R6 matters in progress from previous Executive meetings](#)

**Recommendation:** that the membership note the updates.

## **7. GENERAL BUSINESS**

- 7.1. Membership Recruitment

Membership Policy has a clause that allows Corporate and Not-for Profit Membership. As an Action for the Strategy Plan to pursue Corporate and Not for Profit Membership and increase awareness that membership provisions are enabled.

**DISCUSSION:**

Mayor Lewis pointed out the issue of Voting Rights.

**ACTION:**

The Motion has been removed from the draft Motions to be submitted to the MDA for the 2022 MDA AGM.

## **8. STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS & MOTIONS**



## 8.1. Draft Motions

Members discussed each individual Motion at length.

- Motion 1: Cr Leng to update the Motion and circulate for approval off-line.
- Motion 2: Minor amendment to the wording. MILDRN have been consulted. Motion to be amended and circulated for off-line approval.
- Motion 3: Minor amendment. Heather Barclay tabled the Question on Notice from Cr Schubert regarding the 450GL for environmental water. Region 6 has acknowledged the Question on Notice, will seek advice at the upcoming Conference and will provide feedback to Cr Schubert. Motion approved.

**Heather Barclay left the Meeting at 11:45am**

**Cr Leng returned to the meeting 12noon**

- Motion 4: Motion approved
- Motion 5: Motion approved

First two motions to be amended and circulated for off-line approval. Remainder have been approved.

## 8.2. Region 6 MDA Strategy Plan

Each action was discussed and the following resolved.

- Action 1: Achieved but carry over to new Strategy Plan to include canvas corporate organisations and community groups.
- Action 2: Completed – Stakeholder Symposium. Carry over to the new plan and include a bi-annual tour of the Basin.

**Cr Scott left the Meeting at 12:33**

- Action 3: Carry over to new plan and consider inviting Coorong Environment Trust (Faith Coleman) to the Region 6 AGM.
- Action 4: Carry over and work closer with the Drought Trust
- Action 5: Carry over to new Strategy Plan
- Action 6: Remove circular economy and add “economic development and vitality.

### **ACTION:**

Strategy Plan to be reviewed and used as a draft for discussion with the new Membership Group after the LG Elections.

### **9. INTER-REGIONAL MEETING ( 6<sup>th</sup> September)**

- Inter- regional meeting Agenda was reviewed.
- Only five members from each Region can attend in person at LG House. Remainder to attend on-line. Cr Rebbeck, Cr Leng, Cr Scott, Stephen Packer, Heather Barclay and Carol Muzyk to attend in person.
- Online attendance will be Bridget Mathers.

### **10. NATIONAL CONFERENCE (19-21 September, Albury)**

#### **10.1. 2022 National Conference (19-21 September. Albury NSW)**

- Number of votes at the AGM are Murray Bridge have two votes and Alexandrina Council have 3 votes. Independent Members are struggling to attend due to cost and time to attend the Conference. Tim Phillips advised he has been approached by other independent members for request for virtual attendance for the AGM. Cost for virtual attendance to the AGM needs to be explored. Independent Members can only vote if they are a voting delegated appointed by their Region.

- Bridget Mathers will be the voting delegate for Alexandrina Council
- Mayor Lewis and Heather Barclay will be the voting delegate for RCMB.
- Cr Rebbeck and Cr Scott will be the voting delegate for Coorong Council.

## **10.2. 2023 National Conference (19-21 September Murray Bridge)**

- Mayor Lewis indicated RCMB are very excited about the successful submission. Date is yet to be confirmed but most likely will be 19-21 September. A Planning Group has been appointed to assist the MDA. Mayor Lewis will not be standing for re-election. Cr Rebbeck thanked Mayor Lewis for his efforts.
- Carol Muzyk provided that the existing video is not fit for purpose and a local video producer has been engaged to develop a new video. The video will be presented at the 2022 Conference. Carol highlighted the appointment of the Planning Committee and invited members to provide suggestions and recommendations pertaining to the Conference. Carol's time needs to be considered as there will be budget implications.
- A survey or email to be provided to Members asking for suggestions and recommendations for the Conference, including the tours.

## **11. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS 2022**

- A calendar of Region 6 meetings and events can be found in Appendix 1

**Recommendation:** that the membership review and endorse the Calendar of Meetings and Events 2022.

## **12. NEXT MEETING**

### **12.1. Agenda Items**

- Date of next Ordinary meeting 11<sup>th</sup> November, Rural City of Murray Bridge. Most likely will not occur.

### **12.2. Guest Speakers**

- Yet to be determined.

## **13. CLOSE 12.52pm**

*The Murray Darling Association acknowledges and thanks to the Rural City of Murray Bridge for its support in hosting this Ordinary meeting and video conference of Region 6.*

**Murray Darling Association Inc.**

## Appendix 1: Murray Darling Associations Region 6 - Calendar of Meetings and Events 2022.

Date	Event	Notes
	MDA Basin Leadership Program	TBC
22 or 29 July 2022	Inter-Regional Meeting – Led by Region 5 – Berri Barmera Council	Topics: Motions/Water Position Paper
5 May 2022	Executive Meeting 1	Virtual – Set Agenda/Guest Speaker for Ordinary meeting
20 May 2022	Ordinary Meeting 2	Coorong District Council Finalise R6 Motions for member council endorsement Finalise Video/Bid for National Conference (2023)
8 July 2022	Executive Meeting 2	Virtual - Set Agenda Guest Speaker for Ordinary meeting
12 August 2022	Ordinary Meeting 3	Rural City of Murray Bridge R6 Confirm Attendance National Conference 2022
19-21 September 2022	MDA National Conference	City of Albury NSW Region 6
14 October 2022	Executive Meeting 3	Virtual - Set Agenda Guest Speaker for Ordinary meeting
11 November 2022	Ordinary Meeting 4	Topics
9 December 2022	Executive Meeting 4	Virtual - Set Agenda Guest Speaker for Ordinary meeting Topics: Nominations, Budget and Draft work plan
24 February 2023	AGM/Ordinary Meeting 1	Topics: Elections and Work plan 2023

R6 Executive Meeting
R6 Ordinary Meeting
R6 Events
Events


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**Murray Darling Association Region 6. Ordinary Meeting**  
**Matters in progress arising from previous meeting**

Description			Strategic Objective*	Persons Responsible	Status / Conclusion
5.2	MOTION:	That the Region 6 Committee write formally to Mr Tuckwell acknowledging his service		Coordinator	Ongoing
		Recommend the Executive nominate Mr Tuckwell to the MDA Board for life membership. <b>Update: May 2022</b> Prepare lodgement for life membership.		Coordinator	Ongoing
5.1	ACTION	Prepare a draft letter of acknowledgement of Mr Tuckwell's service for the consideration of the Chair.		Coordinator	Ongoing
4.6	ACTION	The current constitution does not seem to allow proxy voting rights, however the Chair believed that a region can nominate who has voting rights. Some attendees thought that a previous motion had already been agreed (2-3 years ago) that a proxy could have voting rights at a National Conference. Tim to follow up.		Tim Phillips	Ongoing
	MOTION	That proxy representative of all regional Chairs at the AGM should be allowed to vote in the event a Chair is unable to attend.		Mark Lamb	Ongoing
5.2	ACTION	Heather and Warren to report back on MRLGA Water Position Paper Workshop to be held 24 <sup>th</sup> May.		Heather Barclay, Warren Jacobs	Ongoing

*\*1: Maintain and Grow Influence, 2: Share Perspective, 3: Advocacy, 4: Drought Preparedness, 5: United Voice*

 Denotes item completed.




## Murray Darling Association Region 6. Executive

### Matters in Progress arising from 2022 meetings

Description		Strategic Objective*	Persons Responsible	Status	Conclusion	
<b>July 2022</b>						
6.3	ACTION	<p>Chair and Region 6 Coordinator will meet every fortnight.</p> <p>Chair will directly conversed with Region 6 Coordinator on matters pertaining to Region 6, including providing additional support for MDBA Board matters.</p> <p>Region 6 Coordinator will inform GM Heather Barclay of outcomes of fortnightly meetings with Chair.</p>	1,2,3,5	Chair Coordinator	Ongoing	Meetings have been infrequent due to other commitments of both parties

\*1: Maintain and Grow Influence, 2: Share Perspective, 3: Advocacy, 4: Drought Preparedness, 5: United Voice

 Denotes item completed.

Murray Darling Association Region 6 - Calendar of Meetings and Events 2023/2024.

Date	Event	Notes
13 January 2023	Ordinary Meeting 1	Rural City of Murray Bridge and Virtual
10 February 2023	Executive Meeting 1	Virtual
24 February 2023	Region 6 AGM	Rural City of Murray Bridge
10 March 2023	Ordinary Meeting 2	Rural City of Murray Bridge and Virtual
14 April 2023	Executive Meeting 2	Virtual
12 May 2023	Ordinary Meeting 3	Rural City of Murray Bridge and Virtual
9 June 2023	Executive Meeting 3	Virtual
14 July 2023	Ordinary Meeting 4	Rural City of Murray Bridge and Virtual
11 August 2023	Executive Meeting 4	Virtual
8 September 2023	Ordinary Meeting 5	Rural City of Murray Bridge and Virtual
19-21 September 2023	MDA AGM and National Conference	Murray Bridge SA
13 October 2023	Executive Meeting 5	Virtual
10 November 2023	Ordinary Meeting 6	TBA and Virtual
8 December 2023	Executive Meeting 6	Virtual
12 January 2024	Ordinary Meeting 7	TBA and Virtual
9 February 2024	Executive Meeting 7	Virtual
23 February 2024	Region 6 AGM	TBA

R6 Executive Meeting
R6 Ordinary Meeting
R6 Events
Events

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